

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 MCT-01 OMB-01 /090 W
-----221637 000236 /53

R 221536Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1896
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1233

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PLO
SUBJECT: ARAFAT SELECTS PALESTINIAN TRADITIONALISTS AS PNC
DELEGATES

1. DURING FEB 21 TALK WITH EMBOFF AND NSC MEMBER QUANDT, MFA
AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR SHOUFFI STATED THAT ARAFAT HAD SELECTED
MANY PNC MEMBERS FROM AMONG TRADITIONAL PALESTINIAN VILLAGE
AND CLAN LEADERS. SHOUFFI SAID THIS SELECTION PRINCIPLE APPLIED
EVEN TO FATAH. HE CLAIMED ARAFAT HAD DELIBERATELY PASSED OVER
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE "YOUNG HOTHEADS," THOSE STUDENTS WHO HAD
COME FROM EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE TO FIGHT ON PALESTINIAN SIDE
IN LEBANON AND WHO HAD TAKEN HEAVY CASUALTIES IN THE FIGHTING.
INSTEAD, ARAFAT SELECTED DELEGATES FROM GROUP OF ELDERS WHO
COULD BE EXPECTED TO EXHIBIT MORE OF A "LIVE AND LET LIVE"
OUTLOOK AND WHO, HE IMPLIED, WOULD BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO
DIRECTION FROM ARAFAT AT PNC SESSION.

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2. COMMENT: WE DON'T KNOW NUMBER OF DELEGATES WHOSE SELECTION
ARAFAT REPORTEDLY INFLUENCED. ARAFAT IS APPARENTLY EXERTING MAXIMUM
EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT PNC WILL RETAIN SOME MEASURE OF PLIANCY
AS HE ATTEMPTS TO MOLD CONSENSUS ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES OF PLO
LEADERSHIP AND POSTURES ON VARIOUS KEY ISSUES. WHILE ARAFAT
WOULD PREFER PLIANT INSTRUMENT IN HIS HANDS TO ENSURE HIS
MANEUVERABILITY, WE HAVE RECEIVED FEW INDICATIONS HOW ARAFAT

INTENDS TO USE INSTRUMENT BEYOND STRENGTHING HIS OPTIONS.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PALESTINIANS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, TRADITIONAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC01233
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770061-0551
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770222/aaaaatlx.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3c43f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3268033
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAFAT SELECTS PALESTINIAN TRADITIONALISTS AS PNC DELEGATES
TAGS: PFOR, XF, SY, PLO, (ARAFAT, YASSER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3c43f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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US Department of State
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